

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
CORPUS CHRISTI DIVISION

MARC VEASEY, ET AL.,)	CASE NO: 2:13-CV-00193
)	
Plaintiffs,)	CIVIL
)	
vs.)	Corpus Christi, Texas
)	
RICK PERRY, ET AL.,)	Thursday, May 15, 2014
)	
<u>Defendants.</u>)	(9:11 a.m. to 9:57 a.m.)

HEARING

BEFORE THE HONORABLE NELVA GONZALES RAMOS,
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Appearances:	See Next Page
Court Recorder:	Genay Rogan
Clerk:	Brandy Cortez
Court Security Officer:	Adrian Perez
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1 Corpus Christi, Texas; Thursday, May 15, 2014; 9:11 a.m.

2 (Call to Order)

3 **THE CLERK:** Good morning. This is Brandy with Judge
4 Ramos's court. Who do I have present on the line for the
5 Individuals, Veasey, et al., and LUAC?

6 **MR. HEBERT:** This is Gerry Hebert.

7 **THE CLERK:** Thank you, Mr. Hebert. Are you the only
8 one present on the line for that plaintiff?

9 **MR. HEBERT:** We have Ms. Simpson, Mr. Brazil, and
10 Mr. Derfner also on the line.

11 **THE CLERK:** Thank you. Mr. Hebert, will you be doing
12 the speaking on the phone, or Mr. Dunn, who's in the courtroom
13 -- Mr. Dunn?

14 **MR. HEBERT:** Mr. Dunn in the courtroom will be
15 speaking for us.

16 **THE CLERK:** Thank you. And then for the United
17 States we have Ms. Baldwin present in the courtroom. Do we
18 have anybody appearing by phone?

19 **MS. WESTFALL:** We have Elizabeth Westfall for the
20 United States and others, but we will not be participating.
21 We'll only be listening.

22 **THE CLERK:** Thank you. And then for the Mexican
23 American Legislative Caucus we have Mr. Rosenberg present in
24 the courtroom. Is anybody appearing by phone?

25 **MR. POSNER:** Yes. This is Mark Posner.

1 **THE CLERK:** Thank you, Mr. Posner.

2 **MS. GILL:** And Sonia Gill.

3 **THE CLERK:** Thank you, Ms. Gill. And then for the
4 Ortiz, et al., we have Ms. Van Dalen present in the courtroom.
5 Do we have anybody appearing by phone?

6 **MR. GARZA:** Yes. This is Jose Garza and Robert
7 Doggett.

8 **THE CLERK:** Thank you.

9 **MR. GARZA:** Ms. Van Dalen will speak for Ortiz.

10 **THE CLERK:** Okay. Thank you. And then for the Texas
11 Association of Hispanic County Judges, do we have Mr. Rios or
12 Mr. Henderson present?

13 **MR. RIOS:** Mr. Rios is here, and I think
14 Mr. Henderson's on as well.

15 **THE CLERK:** Okay. Who will be doing the speaking for
16 that party?

17 **MR. RIOS:** We will be listening.

18 **THE CLERK:** Okay. Thank you. And then for the Texas
19 League of Young Voters we have Ms. Korgaonkar in the courtroom
20 and Ms. Eisenberg. Is there anybody present on the line?

21 **MR. HAYGOOD:** Good morning. This is Ryan Haygood for
22 the Legal Defense Fund.

23 **THE CLERK:** Thank you, Mr. Haygood.

24 **MR. HAYGOOD:** Ms. Korgaonkar will be speaking for the
25 Texas Defense Fund.

1 **THE CLERK:** I'm sorry, who was that last person?

2 **MR. HAYGOOD:** Sorry. I said that Ms. Korgaonkar will
3 be speaking for the --

4 **THE CLERK:** Oh, okay.

5 **MR. HAYGOOD:** (Indiscernible)

6 **THE CLERK:** Thank you. And then for the Defendant
7 State of Texas, we have Mr. Scott, Mr. Clay, and Mr. Donnell
8 present in the courtroom. Do we have anybody on the line for
9 the State of Texas?

10 **MR. WHITLEY:** Yes, ma'am. This is David Whitley for
11 the Defendant.

12 **THE CLERK:** Thank you, Mr. Whitley. The Court will
13 call the case.

14 **(Call to order)**

15 **THE COURT:** All right. The Court calls Cause Number
16 2:13-193, *Veasey, et al. versus Perry, et al.* I think
17 everyone's already announced for the record, or Brandy
18 announced for you. So when we were here last, the Court had
19 addressed the motion to quash that was filed by the Defendants
20 partially, and there was the issue regarding campaign materials
21 that were left. And there was a little bit of briefing
22 provided after that hearing. Does Defendant want to proceed on
23 that?

24 **MR. SCOTT:** I believe that, your Honor, that's going
25 to be mister -- Arthur.

1 **THE COURT:** Okay.

2 **MR. SCOTT:** I didn't hear him announce.

3 **THE COURT:** Okay. Is he on?

4 **MR. D'ANDREA:** This is -- hi, your Honor, this is
5 Arthur D'Andrea.

6 **THE COURT:** Okay.

7 **MR. D'ANDREA:** I'm appearing for the Third Party
8 legislators.

9 **THE COURT:** So do you want to proceed on that issue
10 that was left from the last hearing on the motion to quash
11 regarding the campaign material?

12 **MR. D'ANDREA:** Certainly, your Honor. The campaign
13 material -- I take it from their (indiscernible) they are no
14 longer asking for the internal campaign communications.

15 **THE COURT:** I took it that way, too. So let us --

16 **MR. D'ANDREA:** So I'm not (indiscernible) to those.
17 So what is left is the external campaign communications. And
18 as we said in both our original motion and in the supplement,
19 this is both irrelevant to the intent of the legislator and it
20 imposes a large and unexpected burden on a largely volunteer
21 organization to dig up information that is elsewhere publically
22 available to DOJ. We ask the Court to ask DOJ to go to these
23 media sources directly instead of asking the legislators to dig
24 through storage sheds or ask their volunteers to do so, if
25 their volunteers are even around. Most of this information

1 they're not going to be able to access. And it's not just for
2 (indiscernible) I think a legislator would expect to assume by
3 virtue of office for voting on bills that even though that bill
4 might one day be challenged, they would not expect to have to
5 dig through old campaign communications and fliers to defend
6 their actions. And it's certainly an irrelevant point given
7 that many courts have held that private musings of a legislator
8 as a private party have no bearing on the intent of the
9 legislature as a whole. Thank you, your Honor.

10 **THE COURT:** All right, thank you. Mr. Dunn or Ms. --
11 who's going to proceed here? Ms. Baldwin?

12 **MS. BALDWIN:** Yes, ma'am.

13 **THE COURT:** Okay.

14 **MS. BALDWIN:** Good morning, your Honor, Ms. Baldwin
15 for the United States. The regional campaign appeals are
16 critically relevant to the United States' Section 2 claim.
17 Counselor for the legislators has argued that they're
18 irrelevant to intent and we've, you know, cited a case in our
19 brief, *Busby* (phonetic), showing where the statements of
20 individual legislators can well be relevant to intent. But
21 more directly to a results claim under Section 2 of the *Voting*
22 *Rights Act*, decades of well-established case law show that
23 racial appeals are critically relevant evidence on this issue.
24 Racial campaign appeals are relevant to understanding the
25 barriers to equal access to the political process that minority

1 voters in Texas have faced and continue to face. Racial
2 appeals and campaigns are specifically listed in the Senate
3 Report to the 1982 amendments to the VRA as a factor that's
4 potentially probative of whether the minority group enjoys
5 equal access to the political process. The Fifth Circuit looks
6 to those Senate factors in analyzing under the totality of the
7 circumstances a Section 2 results claim.

8 In this case, we intend to prove that Texas's
9 implementation and enforcement of SB 14 will interact with the
10 social and historical legacy of intentional discrimination in
11 Texas to deny African American and Hispanic voters equal
12 opportunity. The materials that the United States is seeking
13 here, campaign materials, can illuminate whether political
14 campaigns in Texas have featured racially-charged rhetoric
15 specifically about voter ID. Racial appeals specifically
16 related to voter ID would be highly probative of the fact that
17 SB 14 developed in a political context that remains marred by
18 the effects of discrimination.

19 In addition to the issue about campaign materials
20 specifically related to voter ID, we also raised in our brief a
21 request that the Court reconsider its oral ruling at the last
22 hearing on the issue of campaign materials specifically related
23 to immigration. Under relevant Section 2 case law, the
24 substance of the campaign materials don't have to be related to
25 the challenged practice specifically in the litigation. So you

1 have cases that we cited in our brief, for example, that
2 consider in the context of challenging at large elections, you
3 know, campaign materials tying crime and vandalism to
4 immigration and, you know, the courts looking to the kind of
5 hostility that those materials raise towards Hispanic non-
6 English speakers. And that's in the *City of Hoyo* (phonetic)
7 case. Or the Los Angeles County case, again, an at large
8 election case where the court looked at campaign mailers
9 linking a Hispanic candidate to support for undocumented
10 immigrants. So we would say that under Senate Factor 6, those
11 immigration materials are relevant here under the totality of
12 circumstances analysis.

13 Your Honor, briefly on the point about these items
14 being publically available, it's just not the case that mailers
15 to individual voters are publically available, or that campaign
16 ads are necessarily stored indefinitely and available through,
17 you know, newspapers and other media outlets. The place to get
18 this highly relevant evidence is directly from the legislators
19 themselves. And then that way we avoid, you know, any disputes
20 later on down the road about whether these materials were, in
21 fact, truly linked to the campaigns by getting them from the
22 campaigns themselves.

23 **THE COURT:** All right, ma'am.

24 **MR. DUNN:** Your Honor, Chad Dunn on behalf of the
25 Veasey LULAC Plaintiffs. What I would add to this is that both

1 in the Section 2 and Section 5 redistricting trials, those
2 three-judge panels considered considerable evidence as it
3 related to campaign materials, and the Section 5 case in
4 particular relied on that evidence.

5 **THE COURT:** Where did that come from? It -- was it
6 requested through discovery?

7 **MR. DUNN:** It's -- to be honest, I don't recall
8 whether it was requested during discovery.

9 **THE COURT:** Okay. Does anyone recall if that court
10 ruled on this very issue, or where did that -- those -- that
11 campaign material come from? It was already out there and you
12 all had it in your possession, or --

13 **MR. DUNN:** I'm sure that the Court didn't rule on it.
14 That I recall.

15 **THE COURT:** Yeah. I --

16 **MR. DUNN:** And there wasn't a hearing.

17 **THE COURT:** -- figured you all would have told me.

18 **MR. DUNN:** Yeah.

19 **THE COURT:** Someone would have argued, you know, that
20 point very -- I guess we -- I would have known. But where'd it
21 come from then, the campaign material --

22 **MR. DUNN:** It's --

23 **THE COURT:** -- if it was used in the D. C. cases?

24 **MR. DUNN:** In some cases it was produced by parties
25 in the case, some of them plaintiffs, as I recall. Some of

1 them came from the State's production. I don't think this
2 issue was teed up; and for better or worse, there's a lot of
3 issues that are being brought to this Court's attention that
4 frankly hadn't been developed in those earlier cases when many
5 of the lawyers involved were new to this sort of type of
6 litigation. But nevertheless, the test here that we think the
7 State tries to burden the Plaintiffs with of relevance is not
8 really the test. The test is whether it might lead to
9 discoverable information or relevant evidence that can be
10 admissible at trial. And the notion that individual supporters
11 of this photo ID bill, SB 14, utilized in their own election
12 campaigns, racial appeals, absolutely goes to show their
13 intent. And I agree with Ms. Baldwin that in addition to using
14 those issues sort of in the baiting of elections also goes to
15 show a results-type effect. So we think it's discoverable
16 information that will lead to admissible evidence.

17 **THE COURT:** Mr. Rosenberg?

18 **MR. ROSENBERG:** Yes, Ezra Rosenberg on behalf of MALC
19 and Texas NAACP, very briefly in support of what Mr. Dunn just
20 said and what Ms. Baldwin said. In the Section 5 case, for
21 example, there was one piece of campaign literature of one of
22 the representatives who was a prime supporter of SB 14 where
23 under the phrase, something to the effect of "tighten
24 immigration laws," the subcategory was pass photo ID. So there
25 was a direct connection. That sort of information, sort of

1 evidence, as Mr. Dunn said, was admitted before the Section 5
2 panel, I believe, without objection. So I think it is highly
3 relevant, and respectfully we support DOJ's position.

4 **THE COURT:** All right. Mr. Rios? Anything from
5 Mr. Rios, who's appearing by phone? Do you have anything to
6 add?

7 **MR. RIOS:** No, your Honor. I would just add that in
8 every case that I've been involved in -- we've been involved in
9 quite a few cases -- this is certainly relevant information,
10 and I would agree with the Department of Justice --

11 **THE COURT:** If it's so relevant, though, why hasn't
12 it ever been requested and the Court had to rule? I mean, I'm
13 not saying necessarily it's not relevant. It just seems at
14 this point, is there anything out there that says that the
15 Court has ruled on this issue as to whether campaign material
16 of this nature should be turned over?

17 **MR. D'ANDREA:** Your Honor, this is Arthur D'Andrea.
18 I don't recall us ever getting discovery directed at the
19 campaign office. Courts have used it in the past, and I'm not
20 having that fight now. I think DOJ can get this stuff
21 otherwise. It sounds like they have a lot more than we do. So
22 we can have that discussion later, but I certainly never recall
23 a discovery order issued to a private campaign office of a
24 legislator.

25 **MS. BALDWIN:** Your Honor, if I could, in the Section

1 5 case, while the issues are similar no doubt in a Section 5
2 case and in a Section 2 case, the Senate Factors that
3 specifically list racial appeals are not a factor or really a
4 quasi-element in the same way under Section 5 of the *Voting*
5 *Rights Act* where the test is discriminatory purpose and
6 retrogression as it is under the results test. So it's
7 uniquely relevant in a Section 2 case as opposed to Section 5.
8 And that's a large reason why it's teed up so squarely in this
9 context and not in the Section 5 context.

10 **THE COURT:** All right. Ms. -- I may mess this up --

11 **MS. KORGAONKAR:** That's okay.

12 **THE COURT:** -- help me.

13 **MS. KORGAONKAR:** Korgaonkar.

14 **THE COURT:** Okay.

15 **MS. KORGAONKAR:** Good morning, your Honor.

16 **THE COURT:** Good morning.

17 **MS. KORGAONKAR:** I have not a whole lot to add. I
18 just want to underscore Ms. Baldwin's point that as she
19 mentioned in Section 2 cases, racial appeals in campaigning are
20 in fact a Senate Factor, which makes this slightly dissimilar
21 from a Section 5 context.

22 **THE COURT:** Okay.

23 **MS. KORGAONKAR:** Thank you.

24 **THE COURT:** Anything else from anyone? Mr. D'Andrea,
25 anything further?

1 **MR. D'ANDREA:** No, your Honor. Thank you.

2 **THE COURT:** The Court's going to grant the motion to
3 quash regarding the campaign materials, deny the Plaintiffs'
4 request to reconsider the issue on the immigration material.
5 Is there anything else on the motion to quash from the defense?
6 Okay.

7 Then there's several things that are pending. There
8 was -- the United States had filed a request for judicial
9 notice, and I had addressed that at the previous hearing.
10 There's no response been filed; is that correct?

11 **MR. SCOTT:** Your Honor, it's my understanding there
12 will be a -- one -- I think it's due on our calendar tomorrow.

13 **THE COURT:** Yeah. It's not due today. I just didn't
14 know if we could go ahead and resolve that. So that's still
15 pending, correct?

16 **MR. SCOTT:** Yes, ma'am.

17 **THE COURT:** Then there was Defendants' request for
18 judicial notice that was filed, I believe, late last week, and
19 that has been responded to. So any -- do you all want to argue
20 that today?

21 **MR. CLAY:** Your Honor, I hadn't even honestly -- I
22 was -- we were traveling down here yesterday afternoon --

23 **THE COURT:** Okay.

24 **MR. CLAY:** -- and I haven't had a chance to look at
25 it, so I'm not sure --

1 **THE COURT:** Yeah. I read it. It's pretty short and
2 simple, so if you -- do the Plaintiffs want to address the
3 objection they have to -- for the Court not to take judicial
4 notice of what the Defendant is requesting, the review of
5 operations of the voting sections civil rights?

6 **MR. ROSENBERG:** Yes. Thank you, your Honor. Ezra
7 Rosenberg --

8 **THE COURT:** It does sound problematic to me, but I
9 thought we could flesh it out.

10 **MR. ROSENBERG:** And very briefly, as your Honor
11 noted, our responses are very brief because there appears to be
12 absolutely no relevance to a report of the Inspector General on
13 the doings of the Voting Rights section, having nothing to do
14 with photo ID in Texas, having absolutely nothing to do with
15 this case, and there's no showing of relevance. And even if
16 there were, as we also noted, there would have to be some
17 decision made as to what specifically should be included,
18 because it's full of hearsay assertions. That sort of stuff is
19 never taken judicial notice of, so there's absolutely no reason
20 to take judicial notice of that document.

21 **THE COURT:** Okay. Any of the other Plaintiffs have
22 anything to add to that?

23 **MS. BALDWIN:** Your Honor, the United States' position
24 is also that Texas's request for judicial notice is not proper
25 with respect to this document. The bedrock requirements for a

1 request for judicial notice being sought under Rule 201(b) is
2 that the request clearly identify the facts for which notice is
3 being sought, and that those facts be both relevant and beyond
4 dispute. This request fails all three of those requirements.

5 As Mr. Rosenberg referred, the OIG review discusses a
6 decade's worth of actions by individuals inside and outside of
7 the Civil Rights Division in the voting section, and discusses
8 a wide range of topics from hiring policy to records request to
9 enforcement decisions. It contains descriptions of events,
10 contested accounts of those events from different participants,
11 findings and recommendations. Among all of this material in
12 hundreds of pages, Texas doesn't identify which of the scores
13 and scores of facts within the review that it's seeking to have
14 noticed. The Court has to have notice of what facts are at
15 issue before it can decide whether they're beyond dispute or
16 relevant. Beyond that, Defendants can't establish relevance in
17 any case.

18 Again, as Mr. Rosenberg said, this is not about --
19 the review is not about SB 14. This case does not concern the
20 enforcement decisions of the voting section. And, you know,
21 Defendants are not entitled to judicial notice of the many
22 disputed and disputable facts within the review simply because
23 the Inspector General has accepted one version of certain
24 contested events.

25 **THE COURT:** All right. Does the defense want to

1 respond to that?

2 **MR. CLAY:** Sure, your Honor. These -- the OIG
3 findings report, the facts in that report are going to be
4 highly relevant to the affirmative defenses that the State is
5 likely to raise, if and when we file an Answer. Those findings
6 document pretty clearly a long history of the (indiscernible)
7 of the enforcement of both Section 2 and Section 5. Obviously
8 this is a Section 2 enforcement case against voter ID by the
9 Department of Justice. And so those findings will prove to be
10 relevant to our affirmative defenses in this case should we
11 file -- need to file an Answer.

12 **THE COURT:** At this time, the Court's going to deny
13 Defendants' request for judicial notice of that, the review of
14 the operations. You know, I'll do it without prejudice if you
15 want to bring it up later regarding specific portions of --
16 that's my understanding that's over 200 pages. So there's a
17 ruling on that.

18 I think the Defendants' first amended motion to
19 compel is still out there. I've brought it up a couple of
20 times. You all were working on particulars, or where are we on
21 that? You all were trying to resolve some remaining issues, I
22 thought. And that is DE 240. It was -- I believe it was an
23 amended motion to compel, and you all had resolved some issues.
24 Then when --

25 **MR. CLAY:** And I think --

1 **THE COURT:** -- I asked about it at the last hearing,
2 you all said, "We've still got a couple of things going on."

3 **MR. CLAY:** Your Honor, I think the -- at the last
4 hearing you had granted the Department of Justice an additional
5 30 days, which I think is actually -- unfortunately for this
6 hearing I think falls tomorrow or the next day. And so I
7 think --

8 **THE COURT:** Okay. So that's still out there?

9 **MR. CLAY:** Yes, ma'am.

10 **THE COURT:** Just on Monday the United States filed a
11 motion for protective order from a deposition notice, a Rule
12 30(b)(6). I know it was just filed. Is there anything we can
13 address on that to try to move things along?

14 **MR. SCOTT:** Your Honor, for clarification purposes,
15 as I was the one who got ready for the deposition and showed up
16 yesterday at the U. S. Attorney's Office, without the courtesy
17 of a call from the folks over at DOJ, just from a practical
18 standpoint, does the filing of a motion for protective order
19 stay all proceedings? It's my understanding it does not given
20 that we're parties.

21 **THE COURT:** Well, you should at least make you make a
22 phone call so that you don't show up to the deposition. But I
23 don't know. Generally when something like this is filed and
24 the deposition is so near that time, the parties are on the
25 phone with Brandy and I'm getting on the line.

1 **MR. SCOTT:** And the notice went out over a month
2 before then. And to wait until the day before to file it that
3 way, I showed up with a court reporter over there to take the
4 deposition -- and I know there's a motion -- there's a
5 certificate of conference on that motion, and I was not aware
6 of finding someone who spoke to those issues with anyone at
7 DOJ. So I -- again, I -- that's a little clarification I guess
8 I need also.

9 **THE COURT:** Okay. Who'd you talk to for your
10 certificate of conference?

11 **MS. BALDWIN:** We sent a detailed letter laying out --

12 **THE COURT:** Okay. I don't like letters when -- a
13 conference to me, to certify that on a motion, is picking up
14 the phone, because letters tend to start doing this. And it's
15 more helpful if the attorneys get on the line and talk. If you
16 can't work it out, you can't work it out.

17 **MS. BALDWIN:** Your Honor, for future reference, we
18 definitely will, you know, take that and --

19 **THE COURT:** I mean, you can start with a letter, but
20 I think for representations to the Court, in particular
21 probably on this case, you need -- you all need to talk.

22 **MS. BALDWIN:** Understood going forward, your Honor.
23 And to be clear, our letter laid out in, you know, over two
24 single-spaced pages very specific and detailed objections with
25 each and every one of the notice topics. We sent that not this

1 week, but mid last week asking Defendants for a response.

2 **THE COURT:** Okay. So -- and who was it sent to, or
3 who were you talking to?

4 **MS. BALDWIN:** It was sent to Mr. Scott, Mr. Clay, and
5 Mr. Whitley.

6 **MR. SCOTT:** And for clarification, the letter said,
7 "Withdraw your notice." It didn't go into anything else. It
8 outlined what was going on with it, and then at the bottom
9 said, "withdraw your notice."

10 **MS. BALDWIN:** Your Honor --

11 **MR. SCOTT:** It did not mention, to my recollection,
12 anything at all about a motion for protective order or can we
13 work out some issues on this at all.

14 **MS. BALDWIN:** Your Honor, the letter said that it was
15 specifically being sent pursuant to the federal rule requiring
16 conferral prior to filing a protective order. So we
17 specifically put the Defendants on notice that we were asking
18 them to withdraw the notice of deposition; and, if not, we
19 would be --

20 **THE COURT:** And that you were going to be filing --

21 **MS. BALDWIN:** -- filing a motion for protective
22 order --

23 **THE COURT:** -- a motion for protective order.

24 **MS. BALDWIN:** -- by citing that rule.

25 **THE COURT:** I don't know. I don't have that before

1 me but I would think it says what it says. So you all just
2 need to work together. I mean, there's no reason for him to
3 have shown up. You all --

4 **MS. BALDWIN:** Your Honor --

5 **THE COURT:** -- you should have conferred, you all
6 should have picked up the phone, whatever it is.

7 **MS. BALDWIN:** And --

8 **THE COURT:** I don't know --

9 **MS. BALDWIN:** -- I'm happy to --

10 **THE COURT:** -- miscommunication, whatever it is. You
11 all just need to work on that because I don't really want to
12 get involved in that type of issue.

13 **MS. BALDWIN:** Your Honor, and we'd be happy to
14 discuss with the Defendants, but I don't want to give any
15 illusions -- it's the United States' position that each and
16 every one of the topics is improper per se for a Rule 30(b)(6)
17 deposition. So while we're certainly willing to talk with the
18 Defendants and go over the many documents on these topics that
19 we've already produced --

20 **THE COURT:** Which is really what should have been
21 done before that motion was filed.

22 **MS. BALDWIN:** And, your Honor --

23 **THE COURT:** Go over the details. And that can't
24 really be done by a letter.

25 **MS. BALDWIN:** Your Honor, we're happy to talk with

1 Defendants about that, but I just want to be clear that it is
2 going to be the United States' ongoing position that a
3 deposition is not appropriate, and we're happy to talk about
4 whether some of them are actually contention interrogatories
5 and not deposition topics. But as a deposition, it's not
6 proper, and I believe we've put the Defendants on notice of our
7 intent not to go forward with the deposition.

8 **THE COURT:** Okay. It sounds to me like you all need
9 to sit and confer about this. Right? So when are we going to
10 do that?

11 **MR. SCOTT:** I can make myself available today,
12 tomorrow. You tell me, Ms. Baldwin, when you'd like to visit
13 about it and we will be available to visit about it.

14 **MS. BALDWIN:** We're happy to set up a call when I'm
15 back in D. C. tomorrow.

16 **THE COURT:** Okay. So tomorrow. And then when are
17 you all going -- you all are going to after that conference
18 going to let the Court know if I need to get involved?

19 **MR. SCOTT:** Yes, ma'am. In fact, we -- by count,
20 there's about six motions to compel that we'll be filing that
21 we've been visiting with the other Defendants on trying to work
22 through each of those issues on production and things as simple
23 as privilege logs. They're asserting privilege and refusing to
24 do privilege logs. They're putting arbitrary catches on
25 timeframes and saying they'll only produce documents back two

1 years, even though the Court has been clear that it was
2 relevant to go way past the 2011 enactment of this. So we're
3 kind of in a bind trying to work stuff out and not getting much
4 at all in the way of leeway. It's like negotiating with
5 ourselves. And so --

6 **MR. DUNN:** Your Honor --

7 **MR. SCOTT:** -- I think that's one of the difficult
8 tasks we're encountering right now.

9 **MR. DUNN:** The fact that this issue was raised is
10 quite shocking to me. We had a long call on Monday where the
11 State -- let me first start with, the State served over 400
12 requests for production having gone through our complaints,
13 taking a sentence and saying, "Produce all the documents that
14 relate to this sentence." We had a long discussion where I
15 thought a lot of these issues were worked out and there was an
16 agreement that it wouldn't be raised today. The parties were
17 going to exchange their positions by email or letter. And then
18 to have it brought up like this seems to be a setback from the
19 progress I thought we had developed on Monday.

20 But I do want to address the privilege information
21 because, as the Court's ESI order makes clear is when there are
22 communications between counsel in this case, there is no need
23 to privilege log those communications. And that's essentially
24 what the State is asking. The State is not only asking for me
25 to log all my communications with the Department of Justice or

1 Mr. Rosenberg or one of the other lawyers in the case. They
2 also want them produced so they can see how we're coordinating
3 on depositions and how we're --

4 **THE COURT:** Is that right?

5 **MR. DUNN:** -- coordinating on interrogatories.

6 **MR. SCOTT:** Well, I wasn't participating on the call
7 on Monday, so I don't know what Mr. Dunn references. Was that
8 a call I was on?

9 **THE COURT:** Okay. Well, who was participating?

10 **MR. ROSENBERG:** Your Honor --

11 **THE COURT:** You know, I thought I was trying to move
12 things along here. I may have made them worse by bringing this
13 issue up. But, you know, any time we get a chance to get
14 together and confer, I'm trying to move whatever is pending
15 because when a motion is filed, I think for this case it's too
16 long to wait three weeks for a response and --

17 **MR. DUNN:** Sure.

18 **THE COURT:** -- so I was trying to move this along,
19 but I may have --

20 **MR. ROSENBERG:** No. In fact --

21 **THE COURT:** -- harmed your progress.

22 **MR. ROSENBERG:** In fact, I think we can, your Honor,
23 make progress on this very issue as Mr. Dunn --

24 **THE COURT:** Okay.

25 **MR. ROSENBERG:** -- has said, because Mr. Scott's

1 right, he wasn't on that call. Ms. Wolf was on that call,
2 Kevin -- I don't remember his --

3 **MR. SCOTT:** Hays.

4 **MR. ROSENBERG:** -- Kevin Hays was on the call. And
5 at the end of the call, I specifically said, "So you're not
6 looking for the logging or disclosure of attorney-to-attorney
7 communications by parties in this case in either the Section 5
8 or Section 2 litigation pertaining to litigation strategy,
9 preparation for trial, etcetera." They said, "We agree."

10 **THE COURT:** Okay.

11 **MR. ROSENBERG:** We said, "Put that in writing."
12 We're waiting for that. And if that's the privilege log issue
13 you're talking about, I think that's been resolved.

14 **MR. SCOTT:** My understanding is we've gotten zero
15 privilege logs from anyone except for the folks over at DOJ.
16 And I -- that may be wrong, but I think that that is one of the
17 big issues. And we can visit --

18 **THE COURT:** Yeah.

19 **MR. SCOTT:** -- outside the Court. I don't want to
20 take up the Court's time.

21 **THE COURT:** All right, because you all -- I -- sounds
22 like we're not really sure where we are.

23 **MR. DUNN:** I think that's right, Judge. I think this
24 needs to ripen another few days or a week.

25 **THE COURT:** Okay. Then the only other thing that's

1 kind of out there hanging still -- and we may need to visit a
2 little further in -- but we're getting close here, we're
3 already almost into summer -- was a trial plan. Do you all
4 want to discuss that or set another hearing on that.

5 **MR. DUNN:** This is Chad Dunn, your Honor. It may not
6 be that we can resolve all of the trial protocol today, but it
7 would be helpful if the Court has already -- has a notion of
8 what time it has to devote to the trial of this case or has
9 another case set after ours, it would be terribly helpful I
10 think in the discussions between the parties to know what the
11 Court has available.

12 **THE COURT:** Well, are the parties -- I haven't read
13 your advisories like within the last week. I read them when
14 they were filed, so I don't remember exactly. But both sides
15 agree that a couple weeks would be okay?

16 **MR. DUNN:** I'm not sure --

17 **THE COURT:** It was just how much time for each party.
18 I mean, is that what the -- and the defense can approach up
19 here, too, if you want, and say --

20 **MR. ROSENBERG:** Your Honor, we've suggested -- we on
21 behalf of the non-U. S. Plaintiffs and Plaintiff Interveners
22 have suggested blocking out September 2nd through September
23 19th for the trial.

24 **THE COURT:** Okay. Which would be three weeks?

25 **MR. ROSENBERG:** Which would be three weeks --

1 **THE COURT:** Okay.

2 **MR. ROSENBERG:** -- less one day because of Labor Day.

3 **THE COURT:** Right, that Monday. And the defense?

4 **MR. SCOTT:** We have proposed a one-week trial, that
5 parties simply do a filing of all their basic direct through
6 the process of declarations so that we start up with the cross
7 examination of the witnesses and make it a much more shortened
8 trial --

9 **THE COURT:** And, you know what --

10 **MR. SCOTT:** -- to give you more information and time.

11 **THE COURT:** -- my only problem is, because I don't
12 mind allotting the time we need for this case. But once I get
13 off the bench on this case, I'm going to be being hit with a
14 lot of stuff on other cases. So whatever you can give me
15 during the trial is going to be much better than giving me "go
16 read all these, you know, depositions," even if it's just
17 excerpts or declarations, because I'm going to be having to
18 deal with other cases, you know, evenings, lunch, in the
19 morning, or whatever it is. So it's going to be -- I can say
20 okay, I'll take your declarations and go through them. But
21 it's going to be difficult.

22 **MR. SCOTT:** And I think one of the proposals that at
23 least -- and this is from both sides. I think both sides are
24 envisioning a seven-hour trial day, and I don't know how
25 feasible that is, if we're --

1 **THE COURT:** That's --

2 **MR. SCOTT:** -- if the Court's --

3 **THE COURT:** -- good.

4 **MR. SCOTT:** -- able to give us that time, that's
5 great.

6 **THE COURT:** You can have -- we have blocked that time
7 out, right, Brandy? We --

8 **THE CLERK:** Your Honor, we're blocked --

9 **THE COURT:** I'm not going to be pretty -- I mean, I
10 may hear things at lunch or after hours or real early in the
11 morning, but I'm not planning to cut into your hours during the
12 day to hear other matters. But even at that, I mean, do -- I -
13 - it would be helpful to me that what you want me to know or
14 what -- the evidence I need to hear that you tell me during
15 these seven hours as opposed to, "Here's a bunch of stuff for
16 you to read tonight, here's these declarations." You know what
17 I'm saying?

18 **MR. SCOTT:** Yes, ma'am.

19 **THE COURT:** Because it just -- you know, I'm going to
20 have to be dealing with other things. And when you're going to
21 have my attention, it's just better to get it in during that
22 time period.

23 **MR. SCOTT:** So trial it is. I envision -- and that's
24 what -- I think a lot of it was trying to get to the heart of
25 the dispute and get the Court the information that both sides

1 agree is relevant to the dispute. It is a bench trial,
2 obviously, and it is something that we would, I think, both
3 sides be able to give you more time to reach a decision based
4 upon getting you as much material ahead of time as possible.
5 And also have a much more, I think, thoughtful introduction of
6 the evidence before you as a result of that process and
7 procedure. It really is not trying to reduce any sizability to
8 get evidence before the Court.

9 **THE COURT:** Right.

10 **MR. SCOTT:** It's simply trying to shorten the time --

11 **THE COURT:** Just the --

12 **MR. SCOTT:** -- so that we don't interfere with the
13 elections.

14 **MR. ROSENBERG:** But we --

15 **MS. BALDWIN:** Your --

16 **MR. ROSENBERG:** -- do have -- I'm sorry, Ms. Baldwin.
17 Go ahead.

18 **MS. BALDWIN:** And I just wanted to clarify that we're
19 -- on the specific issue of the trial length -- in a bit of a
20 different position from the private Plaintiffs. While we agree
21 that at a minimum 45 hours of trial time is what's going to be
22 required per side to try this case, especially given that
23 there's six different Plaintiffs groups with different claims
24 in some respects, and that this is going to be a very expert-
25 heavy case, it's the United States' position that prior to the

1 close of fact discovery and the disclosure of experts, we're
2 not fully able to say how long we think it's going to take to
3 put in evidence in this complex case.

4 **THE COURT:** And I understand. I mean, we're not
5 going to know until as we go along. I have set aside probably
6 a good two and a half weeks, you know, for it. And it may be a
7 little shorter, it may be a little bit longer, and we'll just
8 play with that. I just -- I think the issue, as I recall from
9 the advisory, was how the evidence was going to be presented,
10 as you just said --

11 **MR. ROSENBERG:** Right.

12 **THE COURT:** -- as you all just discussed whether
13 filing the direct testimony with the Court and then just cross
14 examination, right of the witnesses.

15 **MR. ROSENBERG:** Well, I think there -- what we
16 suggested is, assuming there's going to be some sort of
17 allocation of time for the Plaintiffs and for the Defendants,
18 that each side decide how they want to use that time best.
19 There may be people who want to do it by declarations. There
20 may be people who want to do it by live testimony, and that's
21 going to just add or --

22 **THE COURT:** Okay.

23 **MR. ROSENBERG:** -- subtract to time.

24 **THE COURT:** So what is -- how's the Plaintiff wanting
25 to present the case?

1 **MR. DUNN:** Well, I think it's going to depend on a
2 witness-by-witness. Some experts we want to do a full direct
3 on; others we might do five minutes and then do the report.

4 **THE COURT:** Okay. So you just need a certain amount
5 of time and then you will work with that?

6 **MR. ROSENBERG:** Right. There -- I'm sorry, your
7 Honor.

8 **THE COURT:** Go ahead.

9 **MR. ROSENBERG:** There are two issues, I think, that
10 if we can get agreement on would help things today. One is
11 we've suggested that all of the evidence in the Section 5
12 trial--depositions, trial testimony, non-expert trial testimony
13 and depositions and exhibits--are free game here so that we
14 don't have to reinvent the wheel in that respect.

15 **THE COURT:** Okay. That's agreed to?

16 **MR. ROSENBERG:** I don't know.

17 **MR. SCOTT:** I'm sorry.

18 **MR. ROSENBERG:** We've put that in our advisory in --

19 **THE COURT:** Okay. Why don't we see --

20 **MR. ROSENBERG:** -- the Section 5 record, but
21 you're --

22 **MR. SCOTT:** Your Honor, I'm not in a position to take
23 a position at this point, your Honor.

24 **THE COURT:** Okay. So you're going to look at that
25 and --

1 **MR. SCOTT:** Yes.

2 **THE COURT:** It's not a no, it's not a yes right now.

3 **MR. SCOTT:** Yes, ma'am.

4 **THE COURT:** Okay.

5 **MR. ROSENBERG:** And the second issue is whether all
6 of the depositions in this case, whether or not within the
7 hundred mile rule, can also be used in lieu of live testimony.
8 It's really just that hundred mile difference. And, again, I
9 think that would help things appreciably.

10 **THE COURT:** Okay. Mr. Scott, any comment on that?

11 **MR. SCOTT:** As a general thought, that's going to be
12 probably file with us. I don't think that's going to be an
13 issue.

14 **THE COURT:** Okay.

15 **MR. SCOTT:** But, again, I don't want to take an
16 official position at this time.

17 **THE COURT:** Okay.

18 **MR. DUNN:** And I appreciate Mr. Scott on that, and
19 not trying to push him to have a position today, but the
20 discovery period is going to end, and who gets deposed, in some
21 measure, hinges on --

22 **THE COURT:** Okay. Well, when are you all going to
23 discuss them? How about that?

24 **MR. SCOTT:** We are already being triple booked on
25 days, so coincidentally the dates that we have noticed up

1 30(b)(6) depositions, we're seeing that a lot of the
2 legislative depositions are now being booked for -- attempts to
3 do triple booking on when there's days available on the
4 calendar. There's not many days going to be available on the
5 calendar. We warned the Court this was going to be a severe
6 compression of the discovery process. It's come. We're now
7 going to have overlapping like motions to compel and everything
8 else going on and it's going to start speeding up, I think,
9 kind of rapidly. But I think at least from where we stand, we
10 want to make sure we're able to get the discovery. We know
11 that today the Department of Justice -- I anticipate we'll be
12 back in front of you because I'm hearing them say that they're
13 not going to produce a witness to testify to these issues.
14 They're key issues to the case, to the ability of the State of
15 Texas to defend itself. So I --

16 **THE COURT:** I get -- but it sounds to me what
17 Mr. Dunn said is you all were doing depositions. How you all
18 are going to present the evidence at trial is kind of -- you
19 all need to know to see who you all are going to depose or call
20 or --

21 **MR. DUNN:** Right. We may be able to cancel some
22 depositions --

23 **THE COURT:** Yeah.

24 **MR. DUNN:** -- or maybe some others we need.

25 **THE COURT:** Well, it sounds like you all need to

1 talk.

2 **MR. ROSENBERG:** Right. The only issue is the
3 admissibility of the depositions within a hundred miles of this
4 Court.

5 **MR. SCOTT:** Well, and we remain extremely
6 (indiscernible) during this timeframe. I know that we've said
7 that, and I want to make sure the record's real clear. I --
8 the -- we're going to be -- when we -- if we talk about a
9 three-week trial, we then give the Court very little time
10 before --

11 **THE COURT:** Yeah. I mean, I --

12 **MR. SCOTT:** -- early voting starts.

13 **THE COURT:** I was shooting for two weeks, but it
14 sounds like -- I'm not getting a lot of feedback as to -- is
15 each side asking --

16 **MR. SCOTT:** I think a week's great.

17 **THE COURT:** -- for 45 hours?

18 **MR. DUNN:** Well, Judge, we have conferred with the
19 State, and I'm sorry to be the bearer of bad news, but I think
20 this is something we're -- not today necessarily, but I think
21 you're just going to have to tell us. We're not going to be
22 able to reach an agreement with the State.

23 **THE COURT:** I know. But if I had a feeling as to
24 what your evidence is and what you're thinking, you know, might
25 be a -- I'm not -- just not getting a feel from you yet.

1 **MR. ROSENBERG:** Yeah. Well, your Honor, we feel that
2 45 hours per side, Plaintiffs in one hand, Defendants in the
3 other hand, should be sufficient to try this case. And that --
4 the way we worked it out mathematically came out to 14 days of
5 trial, including openings and closings. We don't think that a
6 party should spend a lot of --

7 **THE COURT:** So if I --

8 **MR. ROSENBERG:** -- time in openings, for example.

9 **THE COURT:** If we do eight hour days and then each
10 side -- and I set you up 40 hours, then five days and five
11 days. How about that? That would give us our two weeks and --

12 **MR. SCOTT:** It's much better than the three weeks
13 from our position, your Honor.

14 **THE COURT:** That's where we're starting.

15 **MR. SCOTT:** Yes.

16 **THE COURT:** So --

17 **MS. BALDWIN:** And, your Honor, we would just ask that
18 once, you know, the close of fact discovery and once the number
19 of experts are disclosed, again, that, you know, would be
20 something that the United States might want to re-raise
21 depending on what our case is going to look like, because we do
22 anticipate, you know, lengthy direct examinations of a number
23 of our experts, and we fully anticipate, based on the Section 5
24 trial, lengthy cross examination. And we think that those
25 things, while we agree with the streamlining procedures that

1 the private Plaintiffs have, you know, put forward, some of
2 those things simply can't be shortened.

3 **THE COURT:** Okay. That's fine. And all I -- my
4 comments from a while ago were like you can't expect me to sit
5 here and listen all day seven or eight hours and then go home
6 and have to read another three or four hours of declarations or
7 whatever it may be --

8 **MR. ROSENBERG:** Right.

9 **THE COURT:** -- because then I'm going to get behind
10 and your evidence may not then make a lot of sense if I haven't
11 been able to do that. So anything else?

12 **MR. ROSENBERG:** I -- just as a matter of information
13 -- and I don't know if your Honor is aware that there were, I
14 think, 30 motions to quash that were filed in Austin by the
15 third party legislators. There are also, I think, 30 motions
16 to transfer that were filed by DOJ to bring them to this Court.

17 **THE COURT:** Okay.

18 **MS. BALDWIN:** Your Honor, the Defendants have not to
19 this point consented to the motions to transfer. But given
20 that the motions relate essentially in their entirety to the
21 legislative privilege issues, which this Court is well aware,
22 you know, we're hoping not to have to burden Judge Sparks in
23 the Western District with those issues but to get them very
24 quickly resolved in this Court. And so, again, just as we're,
25 you know, anticipating additional discovery issues, as

1 Mr. Scott's notice said, we are moving full steam ahead with
2 noticing legislator depositions, but we're facing the posture
3 where we may not have the documents that we've requested given
4 these subpoenas. So we intend to move ahead, but where -- if
5 we're successful in opposing the motion to quash and we get
6 probative documents after the case, we may -- after the
7 deposition is taken place, that may be something if we're not
8 able to work out with Defendants an issue that we have to bring
9 to the Court.

10 **THE COURT:** Okay. Mr. Donnell, did you want to say
11 something?

12 **MR. DONNELL:** Your Honor, if I may, as the Court
13 knows, I'm new to the case. Mr. Scott and I have been friends
14 for over 30 years, and we were talking today about this case as
15 contrasted to the case that we were involved in many years ago
16 which involved considerable discovery and many, many
17 depositions. And I think the elephant in the room from my
18 perspective in just getting into it, kind of looking at what
19 needs to be done, and the issue that hasn't been discussed is,
20 is the September 2nd trial date really a realistic date?

21 **THE COURT:** Yes. It is.

22 **MR. DONNELL:** And --

23 **THE COURT:** We have to.

24 **MR. DONNELL:** I know the --

25 **THE COURT:** I mean, that's what we've --

1 **MR. DONNELL:** -- Court is -- wants that, and we're
2 committed to try to meet that date.

3 **THE COURT:** Yeah. No, we're going --

4 **MR. DONNELL:** But there is so much out there, for
5 example -- just an example that Mr. Scott referred to the -- I
6 won't referee who's right and who's wrong about the deposition
7 yesterday where we showed up without -- but, for example, one
8 of the depositions that has been noticed is that of Dan
9 Patrick, who is -- who we don't represent who is running for
10 Lieutenant Governor. Do you know when they have noticed that
11 deposition for? The day after the runoff. Now, is that
12 realistic?

13 **THE COURT:** Probably not.

14 **MR. DONNELL:** Didn't take rocket science to know that
15 that was not an appropriate date to --

16 **THE COURT:** Well, just say it was inadvertent and it
17 needs to be --

18 **MR. DONNELL:** We're going to -- you know, I just
19 think --

20 **THE COURT:** -- that's not fair.

21 **MR. DONNELL:** -- the Court's going to be faced --

22 **THE COURT:** Yeah. That's --

23 **MR. ROSENBERG:** Every time any of the Plaintiffs have
24 sent out a notice of deposition or subpoena, it's --

25 **MR. DUNN:** Or the State.

1 **MR. ROSENBERG:** -- accompanied by an email that says
2 we'll be happy to work out convenient dates with the witness.

3 **THE COURT:** Okay.

4 **MR. DUNN:** And the State has done the same thing,
5 your Honor. They pick a date, they issue a notice, and then we
6 talk about --

7 **THE COURT:** Well, but, you know, this is exactly
8 stuff that I shouldn't have to be dealing with. You all should
9 be able to work through it to set the depositions. But, yes,
10 we're, you know, going on -- planning to go on September 2nd.
11 Everyone knew from the get-go what all that was going to
12 involve in terms of discovery and everything else.

13 **MR. SCOTT:** Your Honor, to the extent the State does
14 -- here -- it's almost as though I (indiscernible) on the
15 situation so that we keep pushing these things off, pushing
16 them off, and the clock's going to expire on June 27th on
17 discovery. We have not gotten anything from DOJ on some
18 documents. We've got a huge dispute. I anticipate it'll come
19 to the forefront tomorrow, even though they have been ordered
20 to turn a lot of that stuff over. I think they've amended some
21 depositions -- I mean, amended some objections. I -- will the
22 -- is the Court going to -- I'm going to make sure at least
23 that I bring it up to you that --

24 **THE COURT:** Okay.

25 **MR. SCOTT:** -- we will be coming back and asking for

1 leave to complete some of the discovery that we timely started,
2 but we believe if the Court rules is appropriate, we would ask
3 that we would get leave at that time, even if it might be after
4 June 27th --

5 **THE COURT:** Well, and I think --

6 **MR. SCOTT:** -- to complete.

7 **THE COURT:** -- because of that situation I shouldn't
8 even have to be involved in that. The parties should be able
9 to work that out.

10 **MR. SCOTT:** Okay.

11 **THE COURT:** But if you need to come to the Court,
12 come to the Court. I don't think I should have to step in on
13 that.

14 **MR. SCOTT:** Thank you, your Honor.

15 **THE COURT:** But I will.

16 **MS. BALDWIN:** Your Honor, if I may. There is one
17 other motion that there's still an open issue on that was --

18 **THE COURT:** Okay.

19 **MS. BALDWIN:** -- filed by the United States, and
20 that's the motion to compel at ECF 162. It's an attorney-
21 client issue that we had, in conferring with the Defendants,
22 vastly reduced the scope of the dispute. But essentially at
23 this point, there's still a legal dispute that's live over
24 certain documents from members of the Texas Legislative Council
25 and the Legal Division communicating to legislators.

1 **THE COURT:** Okay. I thought I had ruled on that,
2 that that was not protected. No?

3 **MR. CLAY:** I thought you had ruled that -- I thought
4 we had decided through conference that stuff from the Research
5 Division wasn't necessarily attorney-client privilege, but I
6 think the -- there's still an outstanding issue about whether
7 or not the Legal Division is attorney-client privilege with the
8 legislators.

9 **THE COURT:** I thought I had ruled on that fully, that
10 it wasn't. I can go back and check. We can see. I don't -- I
11 remember addressing it at a hearing. There were things you all
12 were going to work out. I don't know if we ever went back to
13 address matters. Because I think the issue was, can that
14 legislative council really have an attorney-client privilege
15 with all these people --

16 **MS. BALDWIN:** Yes.

17 **THE COURT:** -- if I recall correct.

18 **MS. BALDWIN:** That's the issue, your Honor. And if
19 your Honor had decided it, we hadn't understood that.

20 **MR. CLAY:** Yeah. I'm --

21 **MS. BALDWIN:** Essentially, you know, the dispute, as
22 I understand it, is essentially the United States take the
23 position that with 181 legislators who are going to have
24 conflicting positions, it's simply not possible under the Rules
25 of Professional Conduct without express waiver to have an

1 attorney-client --

2 **THE COURT:** And I think the -- isn't that what the
3 D.C. court ruled also?

4 **MS. BALDWIN:** Yes, your Honor, in a decision which
5 was later vacated by agreement essentially when Texas agreed to
6 produce the contested documents, the United States didn't
7 contest the vacature, the Court did rule that. And we think --

8 **THE COURT:** Okay.

9 **MS. BALDWIN:** -- the ruling is -- its reasoning is
10 wholly persuasive.

11 **THE COURT:** Well, if I wasn't clear, that was
12 certainly my intent.

13 **MS. BALDWIN:** Okay.

14 **MR. CLAY:** Well -- okay. The only thing I would
15 point out is that the United States government also has these
16 legislative councils who also have attorney-client privileges
17 (indiscernible)

18 **THE COURT:** You know, what's good for them is good
19 for you. I've taken that position from the beginning, even
20 with the legislators, how we're treating everyone. Everyone
21 gets --

22 **MR. CLAY:** Oh, so your position is also that -- the
23 Court's position is also that their legislative council is --
24 they don't have attorney-client privilege with their members?

25 **THE COURT:** I don't have that before me to see how --

1 exactly how it works, but if it works in the same manner, it --
2 you know, what applies to one side applies to the other. We
3 dealt with this issue when you all were trying to get
4 information from the legislators. Right?

5 **MR. CLAY:** Yes, your Honor.

6 **THE COURT:** So --

7 **MS. BALDWIN:** Thank you, your Honor.

8 **THE COURT:** -- United States or State of Texas, same
9 -- everyone is treated equally here. Anything else from the
10 Plaintiffs?

11 **MR. ROSENBERG:** No, your Honor.

12 **THE COURT:** The defense?

13 **MR. SCOTT:** I don't believe so, your Honor.

14 **THE COURT:** Should we -- I know things are -- I guess
15 we'll just set hearings as things start coming in. Or do you
16 all want to start having hearings every ten days or something?
17 Or any suggestions, I guess?

18 **MR. ROSENBERG:** I think a regular call with the Court
19 perhaps if your Honor could do it once a week, once every ten
20 days, I think would be very helpful.

21 **MR. CLAY:** I mean, the State of Texas is agreeable to
22 that.

23 **THE COURT:** Okay.

24 **MR. CLAY:** The only thing that might be helpful is if
25 we can get some sort laundry list of the items that the Court

1 thinks it will address at the hearing just so we can have the
2 proper people on the call or in the courtroom.

3 **THE COURT:** Okay. And generally, I'm going to --
4 even if it's not ripe yet, I'm not going to push it if you all
5 are asking for more time to respond or so. But I'm --
6 generally anything that's pending, I'm going to try to at least
7 see where are we, can we narrow something --

8 **MR. CLAY:** Understood.

9 **THE COURT:** -- can we rule on it; or, if you need
10 time to respond and it's not ripe, I'll -- you know, I'll give
11 you that time. So how about Brandy will send out some dates
12 for every ten days, and then if there's issues with that date,
13 just let her know.

14 **MR. ROSENBERG:** That would be great. Thank you, your
15 Honor.

16 **THE COURT:** Okay. Nothing further, you're excused.

17 **(This proceeding was adjourned at 9:57 a.m.)**
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CERTIFICATION

I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from the electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Toni Hudson", is positioned above a horizontal line.

May 16, 2014

TONI HUDSON, TRANSCRIBER